United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1408
7 June 1993

MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

• Saturday's attack against UNOSOM II personnel by Somali gunmen, killing at least 22 Pakistani peace-keepers and wounding many others, strongly condemned by Security Council; resolution reaffirms Secretary-General's authority to take all measures against those responsible.

• Prince Sihanouk says he will chair meeting of Cambodia's Supreme National Council on 10 June; Dutch and Pakistani UNTAC personnel injured in incidents in Preah Vihear province.

• Secretary-General, before leaving Tunisia for Paris, holds "positive and constructive" talks with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and meets with Tunisian President and Ministers.

• Co-Chairmen of Yugoslavia Conference hold meetings with Secretary-General and Russian Special Envoy in Paris; Lord Owen expected to address European Community Foreign Ministers in Luxembourg tomorrow.

• Environmental protection is an urgent need and continued destruction can no longer be tolerated, Secretary-General in message on World Environment Day, 5 June.

• Italy asks for inclusion of new item entitled "Observer status for Permanent Court of Arbitration in General Assembly" in provisional agenda of forty-eight session of General Assembly.

• UNICEF Executive Board elects Anna Semamba Makinda of Tanzania Chairman for 1993-1994; Executive Director says active leadership required during restructuring of Secretariat.

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The Security Council, at a formal meeting Sunday evening, strongly condemned an incident in Somalia on Saturday, 5 June, at which at least 22 Pakistani peace-keepers serving with the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II) were killed and many more wounded by armed Somali gunmen.

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In a resolution unanimously adopted, the Security Council said the "unprovoked attack" appeared to be part of a calculated and premeditated series of cease-fire violations to prevent UNOSOM II from carrying out its mandate. The Council reaffirmed the authority of the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures against those responsible for the armed attacks and for publicly inciting them, including their arrest and detention for prosecution, trial and punishment.

In a statement issued in Tunisia, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali condemned "the treacherous act against United Nations peace-keepers who are on a mission of peace, reconciliation and reconstruction". He urged that prompt and firm action be taken against the perpetrators of the crime.

UNOSOM II took over authority from the United States-led Unified Task Force on 1 May and was expected to comprise a total of 28,000 troops. In yesterday's resolution, the Council encouraged the accelerated deployment of all UNOSOM II contingents and urged Member States to contribute, on an emergency basis, military support to enable UNOSOM II to confront and deter armed attacks in the future.

According to a United Nations spokesman today, humanitarian activities in Somalia have been disrupted due to widespread civil disturbances and attacks in the cities. Following discussions with relief agencies, non-governmental organizations and others, a decision was made to relocate non-essential staff from Mogadishu to Nairobi, he said.

The Secretary-General's Special Representative for Somalia, Admiral Jonathan T. Howe, said that an investigation of the incident was underway, the spokesman said.

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Prince Norodom Sihanouk has informed the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Cambodia, Yasushi Akashi, that he will chair a meeting of the country's Supreme National Council on 10 June. Prince Sihanouk had said on Friday that he was unable to form and preside over a Supreme National Council with Prince Ranariddh [his son] and Mr. Hun Sen as vice-presidents.

There were several violent incidents in Preah Vihear province over the weekend, according to a United Nations spokesman. Two vehicles driven by United Nations Military Observers were damaged by mines on Saturday, and a Dutch mine clearer from the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) was injured by a mine on Sunday. The same day, a Pakistani platoon from UNTAC was attacked by 150 to 200 soliders believed to be from the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea (NADK) and two Pakistanis were injured.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, before leaving Tunisia for Paris, met yesterday in Tunis with Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), for what both sides described as "positive and

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constructive" talks. The Secretary-General underlined the importance of the Middle East peace talks and said his Special Representative Chinmaya Gharekhan was prepared to offer the services of the United Nations if requested by the parties. Mr. Arafat asked for help in alleviating the economic plight of Palestinians living in the occupied territories through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

On Saturday, the Secretary-General held talks with the President, and Foreign and Defense Ministers of Tunisia, and expressed thanks for that country's contribution to United Nations peace-keeping operations. Tunisia, which has 12 civilian police serving in the United Nations Protection Force (UNPRPFOR) has agreed in principle to send military forces to Bosnia and Herzegovina. Discussions also dealt with the forthcoming World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna and subjects to be raised at the summit of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in Cairo, including the situations in Mozambique, Angola, Rwanda, Liberia and Somalia.

Before leaving Tunis for Paris, the Secretary-General said he would meet with the Libyan leader during the OAU summit regarding United Nations sanctions against Libya.

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Thorvald Stoltenberg and Lord Owen, Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia, held in-depth consultations with Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali in Paris today, according to a United Nations spokesman. Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs Marrack Goulding was also present. The Co-Chairmen then met with Vitali Churkin, the Russian Federation's Special Envoy.

Lord Owen will leave Paris tonight for Luxembourg to attend a meeting of the European Community Council of Foreign Ministers tomorrow. He is expected to address the meeting's morning session. In that connection, he met with the Foreign Minister of the United Kingdom in London last night and with the Foreign Minister of France in Paris today.

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Environmental protection was an urgent need, and continued destruction could no longer be tolerated, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said in a message on World Environment Day, 5 June. Last year's United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) had reached a unique consensus in "Agenda 21", which outlined a plan for environmentally sound and sustainable development, he said.

Sustainable development meant finding and using resources that were renewable, and carefully managing those that were not, according to the Secretary-General. It meant choosing products that do not damage the environment, respecting biological diversity in agriculture and avoiding harmful chemicals. It also meant tackling poverty and using preventive diplomacy to avoid the waste and destruction caused by war.

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Environmental challenges were increasingly being measured in global rather than in national terms, the Secretary-General noted. Environmental destruction in one country, such as the depletion of the ozone layer and the destruction of forests, affected the health of the entire planet, he pointed out.

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Italy has asked for the inclusion of an item entitled "Observer status for the Permanent Court of Arbitration in the General Assembly" in the provisional agenda of the forty-eight session of the General Assembly.

In a letter to the Secretary-General, dated 2 June, the Italian Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Francesco Paolo Fulci, wrote that the States parties to the Hague Conventions for the pacific settlement of international disputes felt that the creation of a permanent institutional relation between the Permanent Court of Arbitration and the United Nations would enable both organizations to strengthen the existing links.

The Permanent Court of Arbitration, which was established in 1899 by the First Hague Convention for the pacific settlement of international disputes and has its seat in the Peace Palace in the Hague, is the oldest governmental institution in existence that is dedicated to the task of resolving disputes between States.

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The Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) today elected Anna Semamba Makinda of Tanzania as its Chairman for 1993-1994. Most of the Board's officers were also elected at the organizational meeting.

UNICEF Executive Director James Grant said the new Board would have to provide active leadership in the coming year as UNICEF would be undergoing major changes because of the restructuring of the Secretariat. Putting children first must continue to be a priority and a challenge, he added.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

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DH/1409
8 June 1993

TUESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Secretary-General expresses shock and outrage at massacre perpetrated on displaced persons at Camp Carter, near Harbel, Liberia; instructs his Special Representative to conduct investigation into incident; appeals to all concerned to respect protection of innocent civilians.

+ Special Envoy for Haiti welcomes resignation of Marc Bazin as "Prime Minister" of de facto Haitian government; says such move might facilitate re-establishment of constitutional process and return of President Aristide.

+ In Somalia, Secretary-General's Special Representative says security situation is "mixed"; recent events in Mogadishu have not affected humanitarian activities, according to spokesman.

+ Ambassador Knut Vollebaek of Norway appointed Deputy to Thorvald Stoltenberg, Co-Chairman of International Conference on former Yugoslavia; Co-Chairmen to hold talks in Geneva on Saturday, 12 June, with Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Bosnian Croats.

+ UNTAC encourages Cambodian political parties to intensify negotiations; says Prince Sihanouk has critical role in process and is "unquestionably called" to lead interim administration.

+ Secretary-General, in Paris, meets French Social Affairs Minister; discusses implementation of Security Council resolution 836 with Thorvald Stoltenberg and Under-Secretary-General Goulding.

+ Mario Zamorano appointed Director of United Nations Information Centre in Madrid; will assume position on 14 June.

+ Albania says it would object to name of "Slavo-Macedonia" for former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia since Albanians make up almost 40 per cent of the population.

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For information media--not an official record

+ Effective prevention in developing countries could cut number of new infection with HIV by 9,5 million this decade, according to World Health Organization.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has expressed shock and outrage over the "senseless massacre" perpetrated on "defenceless displaced persons" over the weekend at Camp Carter near Harbel, in Liberia.

In a press release issued tonight at Headquarters, a Spokesman of the Secretary-General said that Mr. Boutros-Ghali had instructed his Special Representative, Mr. Trevor Gordon-Somers, to depart from Bamako, Mali, and proceed immediately to Monrovia to conduct a thorough investigation into this incident.

In the press release, the Secretary-General appealed to all concerned in the conflict in Liberia to have due respect for the principles regarding protection of innocent civilians caught in this senseless tragedy. According to preliminary reports, the majority of those killed in the incident were women and children, noted the communiqué.

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The resignation of Marc Bazin as "Prime Minister" of the de facto government in Haiti is a welcome development insofar as it might facilitate the re-establishment of the constitutional process and the return of President Aristide, a spokesman for the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Haiti, Dante Caputo, said today.

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In Somalia, the Secretary-General's Special Representative, Admiral Jonathan T. Howe, has described the security situation following the recent attacks on the United Nations Operation in that country (UNOSOM II) as "mixed", according to a United Nations spokesman today. The recent events and the tangible tension in Mogadishu would undoubtedly influence other parts of Somalia, he said. In Mogadishu, there were reports of sporadic incidents of violence, and UNOSOM II was continuing aerial surveillance of the area.

This morning, UNOSOM had received a message from 11 Somali parties expressing support for the Security Council's resolution 837 (1993) and condemning the recent attack on UNOSOM's forces. With regard to the humanitarian activities throughout the country, the recent incidents in Mogadishu had not affected the relief work by the United Nations or by non-governmental organizations in the rest of the country, the spokesman said.

According to an interview this morning with UNOSOM II spokesman Farouk Mawlawi, there was still "plenty of weapons" in Mogadishu, and the disarmament of the Somali factions in the city and its surroundings prior to the coming of UNOSOM II had been "very limited". Asked if there had been any attempts to

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disarmament since UNOSOM II took over on 1 May, Mr. Mawlawi said the United Nations troops had barely engaged in confiscating weapons. He noted that considering the amount of weapons known to exist in the country, "we have probably barely touched the surface".

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Ambassador Knut Vollebaek has been appointed Deputy to Thorvald Stoltenberg, one of the two Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on former Yugoslavia, according to a United Nations spokesman today. Lord Owen, the European Community's negotiator on former Yugoslavia, is the other Co-Chairman.

Mr. Vollebaek is a Norwegian career Diplomat, whose previous posts have included New Delhi, Madrid and Harare. From October 1989 to November 1990, he was Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Norway. Until March this year, he was Norwegian Ambassador to Central America. He then rejoined the Foreign Ministry as Director General.

Both Co-Chairmen would have a final round of discussions with the Secretary-General tomorrow, Wednesday, 9 June, prior to their departure for Belgrade, the spokesman said. They would return to Geneva at the end of the week for talks on Saturday, 12 June, with the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Bosnian Croats.

In a related development, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) expressed its deep concern at the water shortages affecting the besieged inhabitants of Srebrenica and the civilian population of Mostar and Donji Vakuf, according to a press release issued at Headquarters today. The ICRC appealed to the authorities concerned to allow the Committee to provide assistance in order to avoid the outbreak of epidemics.

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The United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) today asked Cambodia's political parties to intensify negotiations towards a peaceful transition of power and national reconciliation. UNTAC made that call one day before the announcement of the final results of the recent elections and two days before the convening of a meeting of the country's Supreme National Council chaired by Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

An UNTAC spokesman said Prince Sihanouk had a critical role to play in the transition process and was "unquestionably called" to lead an interim joint administration. UNTAC wished him success in talks with the Front Uni National pour un Cambodge indépendant, neutre, pacifique et coopératif (FUNCINPEC) and the Cambodian People's Party (CPP), within the framework of the Paris Peace Accords and bearing in mind the election results.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has appointed Mario Zamorano as Director of the United Nations Information Centre in Madrid. Mr. Zamorano, who succeeds Bernal Vargas-Saborio, will assume the position on 14 June.

Mr. Zamorano, a national of Chile, has been Director of the United Nations Information Centre in Mexico City since 1988. Between 1982 and 1988, he was Associate Spokesman for the Secretary-General at Headquarters, and served as Spokesman for the President of the thirty-eighth session of the General Assembly. Mr. Zamorano joined the Secretariat in 1980 as an Information Officer in the Department of Public Information.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, on the second day of a working visit to Paris, today called on the French Minister of Social Affairs. He later met with Thorvald Stoltenberg, Co-Chairman of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia, with Under-Secretary-General Marrack Goulding in attendance. They discussed the implementation of Security Council resolution 836 (1993), which authorizes the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) to use force in reply to attacks against six Bosnian towns designated as safe areas.

The Secretary-General was due to meet this afternoon with the Mayor of Paris, and was also expected to hold talks with senior members of the French Government, including President François Mitterrand. Yesterday, the Secretary-General had what was described as "a very good meeting" with an envoy of President Mobutu of Zaire.

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Albania has said that it would strongly object to the adoption of the name "Slavo-Macedonia" for the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The name would sanction unequal treatment of Albanians, who made up almost 40 per cent of the Republic's population, the Permanent Representative of Albania to the United Nations, Thanas Shkurti, said in a letter to the Security Council, dated 7 June.

Albanians in Macedonia considered the name "Slavo-Macedonia" unacceptable and humiliating, and the Government of Albania associated itself with their denouncement of it, according to the letter.

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Effective prevention in developing countries could cut the number of new infections with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) by 9.5 million this decade, according to the World Health Organization (WHO). That would mean 4 million fewer infections in both Africa and Asia, and 1 million fewer in Latin America, Dr. Michael Merson, Director of the WHO Global AIDS Programme told the Ninth International Conference on AIDS in Berlin.

Prevention included promoting condoms, treating all sexually transmitted diseases, AIDS education in schools, and needle exchange programmes for drug users, Dr. Merson stressed. He added that such measures should be adapted to local circumstances and constraints.

Dr. Merson said that an annual $2.5 billion price tag for HIV prevention in developing countries should be regarded as an investment for the future. Investing that amount by the year 2000 would lead to savings of nearly $90 billion in direct and indirect costs from AIDS, he contended.

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Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1410
9 June 1993

WEDNESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Special Envoy proposes political dialogue for democratic convergence in Haiti; says initiative is timely because of danger of political vacuum in country; meeting might be convened early next week.

+ Security Council, in Presidential Statement today, condemns recent massacre near Harbel, Liberia, of innocent displaced persons; warns that those responsible for violations of international humanitarian law will be held accountable.

+ Security Council, in first of three Presidential statements yesterday, condemns attack against Pakistani and Malaysian UNTAC troops; warns those who threaten United Nations personnel and Cambodian democracy.

+ Security Council calls on Krajina Serbs to resume talks with Government of Croatia on cessation of hostilities, withdrawal of arms, as demanded by Council under resolution 802 (1993).

+ Criminal attack on civilian train by UNITA strongly condemned by Security Council; stresses that those responsible must be held accountable.

+ UNOSOM to carry out operations from Force Headquarters in Mogadishu following Saturday's attack on peace-keepers in that city; Special Representative Howe says consolidation will improve functioning of United Nations agencies in Somalia.

+ Secretary-General, in Paris, meets with Co-Chairmen of Yugoslav Conference and Under-Secretary-General Marrack Goulding; meets also with French Ministers.

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The Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Haiti, Dante Caputo, today proposed, under the auspices of the United Nations and the Organization of American States (OAS), a political dialogue towards "a democratic convergence" in Haiti. He said that the country's constitutional authorities supported the

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initiative and added that a meeting might be convened early next week, depending on the responses from the various parties concerned.

The dialogue should bring together the main political forces in Haiti and the representatives of the Presidential Commission, he went on to say. Participants should state publicly beforehand their acceptance of Jean-Bertrand Aristide as Haiti's legitimate constitutional President.

The Special Envoy said that in order to prevent the use of the initiative as a delaying tactic, participants should agree to promote: a return to constitutional rule through the ratification of a Prime Minister nominated by President Aristide; the physical return of the President; constitutional changes in the High Command of the Haitian Armed Forces; and legal instruments for national reconciliation and procedures for professionalizing the Armed Forces and establishing a new police force. Mr. Caputo warned that an "ephemeral political solution would plunge us into a new abyss".

In response to questions, he said that the initiative was timely because of the possibility of a "vacuum of power" following the resignation of Marc Bazin as prime minister of the de facto government in Haiti. He added that political support for the military regime had become weakened and divided.

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The Security Council, in a Presidential Statement issued this afternoon, condemned the massacre near Harbel, Liberia, on 6 June, of innocent displaced persons, including women and children, and warned that those responsible for such serious violations of international humanitarian law would be held accountable.

According to the statement, read out by Council President Juan Antonio Yañez-Barneuvo (Spain), the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Liberia, Trevor Gordon-Somers, was working to arrange a meeting of the warring factions in order to bring the three-year civil war to a peaceful end. The Council remained firmly supportive of the efforts of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Secretary-General to bring peace to Liberia. It urged all Liberian parties to support the peace efforts, including a cease-fire, encampment, disarmament and democratic elections.

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In the first of three Presidential statements issued last night, the Security Council condemned two armed attacks yesterday against Pakistani and Malaysian platoons of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), at which several personnel were injured.

The Council again warned that it would take appropriate measures against those who threatened the safety and security of UNTAC personnel and were trying to overturn the democratic process in Cambodia through violence. The Council took note of the Secretariat's preliminary report that the attack against the Pakistani compound was launched by the National Army of Democratic

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Kampuchea (NADK), but that the identity of the attackers in the second incident had not yet been determined. The Council asked the Secretary-General to continue the investigation and to report urgently on the outcome.

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In a second statement issued last night, the Security Council expressed deep concern over the failure of the Krajina Serbs to take part in talks on the implementation of resolution 802 of 1993. That resolution demanded that Croation forces in United Nations Protected Areas (UNPA) end hostilities and withdraw from those areas, and that the local Serbs return heavy weapons removed from the control of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR). The resolution also demanded that all parties comply with agreed cease-fire arrangements.

The Council urged all parties to resume talks immediately with a view to rapidly implementing resolution 802 (1993). Having examined the situation in the UNPAs in Croatia, the Council said it deplored the interruption of the dialogue, which had recently produced signs of progress.

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The Security Council last night strongly condemned the attack by the forces of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) on 27 May against a civilian train, which resulted in the death of 225 persons and several hundred wounded.

In its third statement last night, the Council repeated its demand that UNITA immediately cease its armed attacks and stressed that those responsible must be held accountable. It urged UNITA leaders to make sure that their forces abided by international humanitarian law, and it emphasized the imperative need for a cease-fire throughout the country.

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The United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II) will carry out its operations from Force Headquarters in Mogadishu following Saturday's "blatant, unprovoked" attack on UNOSOM forces in the city, according to a statement by the Secretary-General's Special Representative Jonathan Howe. The attacks, which killed 23 Pakistani peace-keepers, had robbed Mogadishu of its security and disrupted some relief activities in the city, but had not interrupted activities elsewhere in Somalia, he said.

The "consolidation" of United Nations personnel in Mogadishu would improve communications and coordination between United Nations agencies in Somalia and help UNOSOM to continue its work, according to Admiral Howe. UNOSOM is firmly committed to fulfilling its humanitarian responsibilities and is devoted to facilitating national reconciliation in Somalia, he stressed.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali met with the Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on Former Yugoslavia, Thorvald Stoltenberg and Lord Owen this morning in Paris. They were later joined by Under-Secretary-General Marrack Goulding.

The Secretary-General also met with French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur, whom he thanked for France's contribution to United Nations peace-keeping efforts in Cambodia, Somalia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Mr. Boutros-Ghali then had a working luncheon with the Minister of State and Defense with whom he discussed the implementation of resolution 836 (1993) and reviewed United Nations peace-keeping operations around the world, particularly in Cambodia, Somalia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Secretary-General also met with his Special Representative for Western Sahara, Sehabzada Yaqub-Khan, who briefed the Secretary-General on his latest meeting with King Hassan II of Morocco and on his talks with senior Moroccan Government officials. The Secretary-General was scheduled to meet with French President François Mitterrand later today, with Giscard d'Estaing, Chairman of the Committee for Foreign Affairs of the National Assembly and with the French Foreign Minister.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1411
10 June 1993

THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council requests Secretary-General to report on options for possible deployment of international observers to monitor borders of Bosnia and Herzegovina, "giving priority" to that country's border with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro).

+ Continued presence of Peace-keeping Force on Cyprus "indispensable", acccrding to Secretary-General's report; recommends its extension for further period of six months, until 15 December 1993; urges both parties to exercise "maximum restraint".

+ Some $70 million pledged for humanitarian assistance in Mozambique at Maputo follow-up to Rome Donors' Conference; total pledge is $520 million out of $560 million required.

+ Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs convenes special meetings on humanitarian assistance for Armenia and Azerbaijan today and tomorrow in Geneva.

+ UNDP Administrator says agency has insufficient funds to maintain credibility; says Governing Council must safeguard support for Africa.

+ World Food Programme extends relief operations for refugees in Ethiopia, Kenya, Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea and Sierra Leone.

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The Security Council today requested the Secretary-General to report to the Council "as soon as possible" on options for the possible deployment of international observers to monitor effectively the implementation of relevant Security Council resolutions, giving priority to the border between Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro). The Council took that action by adopting unanimously resolution 838 (1993).

Observers would be drawn from the United Nations, and, if appropriate, from Member States acting nationally or through regional organizations, according to the resolution. Priority would be given to Bosnia and

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Herzegovina's border with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro). The Council invited the Secretary-General to immediately contact Member States to ensure the availability of any relevant material derived from aerial surveillance and to report thereon to it.

The resolution reaffirmed Bosnia and Herzegovina's sovereignty and territorial integrity and the Council's responsibility in that regard, and reiterated demands in previous resolutions that interference from outside the Republic cease immediately. The Council recalled its demand in resolution 819 (1993) that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia immediately cease the supply of military arms and equipment to Bosnian Serb paramilitary units.

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The continued presence of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) remains indispensable to achieve the objectives set by the Security Council. Therefore, the Council should extend the mandate of UNFICYP for a further six-month period, that is until 15 December 1993, has recommended Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali in a report on UNFICYP.

The report, dated 9 June, also stresses that the decision made by the Council on 27 May to treat "those costs of the Force which are not covered by voluntary contributions as expenses of the Organization" not only assures financial stability for the Force, but also acknowledges the importance of voluntary contributions for some peace-keeping operations, particularly from the beneficiaries of longer-term operations. This decision will put the financing of UNFICYP on an equitable and sound basis, which should resolve the difficulties the Force has experienced in retaining troop contributors, writes the Secretary-General.

Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali urges both sides on the island to exercise maximum restraint, and extend without delay the 1989 unmanning agreement to all parts of the buffer zone where their forces remain in close proximity to each other.

The Secretary-General also expresses his appreciation to the Governments contributing troops and civilian police to UNFICYP for their steadfast support to "this most important peace-keeping operation" of the United Nations and thanks the Governments that have made voluntary contributions towards the financing of the Force.

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Some $70 million has been pledged for humanitarian assistance in Mozambique at a follow-up meeting to the Rome Donors' Conference in Maputo held on 8 and 9 June, according to a United Nations spokesman today.

The official document for the meeting, "Consolidated Humanitarian Assistance Programme for 1993-1994", was prepared by the Office for

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Humanitarian Assistance Coordination, part of the United Nation Operation in Mozambique (ONUMOZ). The programme requires an estimated $560 million, and a total of $520 million has now been pledged.

The meeting was chaired by Jan Eliasson, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, and Carmelo Azzara, Italy's Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs. The opening session was addressed by representatives of the Government of Mozambique and the Mozambique National Resistence Movement (RENAMO).

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Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Jan Eliasson has convened special meetings on humanitarian assistance for Armenia and Azerbaijan to be held in Geneva on 10 and 11 June. The meetings will be chaired by Gerald Hinteregger, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe.

The 10 June meeting will consider an inter-agency humanitarian programme to cover humanitarian needs in Armenia from July 1993 to March 1994. Earthquakes and armed conflict have displaced some 330,000 people in the country. The programme will provide food aid, shelter and health care to the most vulnerable people at an estimated cost of $22.5 million. The 11 June meeting will consider a similar programme for Azerbaijan, where there are more than 500,000 refugees and displaced people. The programme will provide an estimated $12.5 million worth of aid for one year beginning in July 1993.

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The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) does not have sufficient funds to maintain its credibility, and is in danger of losing its universal coverage, UNDP Administrator William Draper said today. Responding to a debate on his annual report for 1992, Mr. Draper told the UNDP Governing Council that it must particularly safeguard the provision of support to Africa.

Ji Chaozhu, Under-Secretary-General for the Department of Development Support and Management Services, told the Governing Council that the Office for Project Services (OPS), which was to be transferred from UNDP to the Secretariat, would remain a distinct semi-autonomous entity in his Department.

The 48-member Governing Council is holding its fortieth session at Headquarters through 18 June.

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The World Food Programme (WFP) yesterday decided to extend its refugee feeding operations in Ethiopia, Kenya, Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea and Sierra Leone.

In Ethiopia, the WFP will extend a project to feed some 200,000 Somali and Sudanese refugees by 18 months, at a total cost of $33 million. The

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refugees have fled civil strife and natural disasters in their own countries. The WFP operation in Kenya will be extended in Kenya by 15 months to aid 310,000 refugees from Somalia, 22,000 from Sudan and 17,000 from Ethiopia, at a cost of $47 million.

In Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea and Sierra Leone WFP has extended its assistance to 2 million refugees and displaced people by one year at a cost of $81 million for 1993-1994. The extension is needed because of civil strife in Liberia and Sierra Leone, and because of declining prospects for the repatriation of refugees in the coming year.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1412
11 June 1993

FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council extends mandate of United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus for further six-months period, until 15 December, 1993.

+ Security Council, in Presidential statement, says recently discovered FMLN arms cache is most serious violation of El Salvador Peace Accords; urges FMLN to provide inventory of arms and to surrender them in accordance with Accords.

+ Croatia calls for emergency meeting of Security Council concerning "recent offensive by Muslim forces" on Croatian civilians in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

+ UNDP Governing Council descusses German proposal to relocate headquarters of UNDP and UNFPA to Bonn.

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The Security Council today extended the mandate of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) for a further six-months period, until 15 December, 1993. The Council took that action by adopting unanimously resolution 839 (1993).

Under the resolution, the Council expressed support for the Secretary-General's report of 9 June, in which he said the new mandate of UNFICYP implied greater responsibilities for the two parties to lower tension, including mutual commitments, through UNFICYP, to prohibit along the cease-fire lines live ammunition or weapons other than those which are hand-held.

The Secretary-General had argued in his report that in view of the new financial stability of the Force and the restructuring plan to limit the number of observers, the continued presence of UNFICYP on the island remained "indispensable" for an agreement between the two communities.

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For information media--not an official record

The cost to the United Nations of maintaining UNFICYP for six months was estimated at $22.5 million of which about 50 percent would be financed by voluntary contributions, the report said. The remaining $10 million would be sought from the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, according to the Secretary-General's recommendations. Previously, UNFICYP was funded entirely from voluntary contributions resulting in an accumulated deficit of $200 million since the inception of the Force in 1964.

Joint talks between the leaders of the two communities in Cyprus -- the Turkish Cypriots and the Greek Cypriots -- are expected to resume on Monday, 14 June. The talks, which are being chaired by the Secretary-General's Special Representative, Joe Clark, will focus on arrangements for reopening Nicosia Airport and placing the area of Varosha under the United Nations administration.

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The Security Council, in a Presidential statement, today said that the maintenance of a clandestine arms cache by the Frente Farabundo Marti para la Liberación Nacional (FMLN) was the most serious violation of the El Salvador Peace Accords signed in Mexico City in January 1992 and demanded again that the Accords be complied with promptly. The statement, which was issued by Council President Juan Antonio Yañez-Barnuevo (Spain), is in response to a letter by the Secretary-General of 8 June regarding the FMLN arms cache discovered on 23 May.

The Council again urged the FMLN to provide a complete inventory of its arms and munitions inside and outside El Salvador, to surrender them in accordance with the Peace Accords, and to continue to cooperate with the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador (ONUSAL). It expressed satisfaction at the cooperation of the Government of Nicaragua in itemizing and disposing of arms and munitions found.

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Croatia, in a letter to the United Nations, has called for an emergency meeting of the Security Council concerning the "recent offensive by Muslim forces" on Croatian civilians in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Mario Nobilo, Croatian Permanent Representative to the United Nations, said in the letter that hundreds of Croats had been killed around the town of Travik, and more than 25,000 Croats had been expelled from their homes. The continuation of the offensive would lead to a massive flow of refugees into Croatia, which was already accommodating more than 250,000 Muslim refugees from Bosnia and Herzegovina, the letter warned. The situation had "all the elements of a humanitarian catastrophe" that could jeopardize the fragile peace process in the region.

The only answer was to persuade the parties in conflict to implement the Vance-Owen peace plan, as had been agreed by Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic and Bosnian Croat leader Mate Boban on 19 May, Croatia said.

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Germany has said that its offer to relocate the headquarters of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to Bonn is based on a resolve to bear international responsibility and to make the city a center for North-South cooperation, the country's representative told the UNDP Governing Council's fortieth session yesterday. Headquarters premises would be provided rent-free and major maintenance operations would be paid for, the representative said. Most States responding to a questionnaire on the proposed move saw only disadvantages, he said, but less than half of all Member States had responded.

The United States representative said UNDP and UNFPA headquarters should remain in New York City, in accordance with the Secretary-General's desire to streamline the United Nations. A move would burden developing countries with having to establish diplomatic corps in Bonn and would interrupt the work of the agencies for up to a year, he pointed out.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1413
14 June 1993

MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ UNOSOM II carries out air and ground actions in Mogadishu in ongoing disarmament of Somali factions; Secretary-General, in interim report to Security Council, says investigation of 5 June incident points to "conspiracy" by elements of United Somali Congress/Somali National Alliance to commit violence.

+ World Conference on Human Rights must show that "democracy is linked with human rights", Secretary-General tells press conference as Conference begins in Vienna.

+ Sustainable development is economic progress without environmental destruction, Vice-President of United States tells Commission at opening of its first session.

+ In Cambodia, Constituent Assembly is sworn in two weeks after United Nations-supervised elections; Secretary-General's Special Representative appeals to all "to bury the hatchet of yesterday, cease mutual recriminations and concentrate from now on upon the future".

+ Secretary-General regrets decision by Turkish-Cypriot leader to delay his arrival in New York for talks beginning on 14 June; joint meetings will not resume at Headquarters as planned.

+ UNEP hosts meeting to examine link between health problems and environmental conditions in Africa.

* * *

The United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II) today conducted a third engagement to neutralise hostile facilities in Mogadishu, after the discovery of more secret weapons storage areas, according to a United Nations spokesman. The air and ground actions were part of an ongoing programme of disarmament which UNOSOM II had been mandated to carry out and which had been agreed to by all Somali factions, he said.

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The actions followed unprovoked attacks on UNOSOM II by Somali gunmen on 5 June, which resulted in the deaths of 23 Pakistani peace-keepers. The Security Council reacted by unanimously adopting resolution 837 (1993), which reaffirmed the Secretary-General's authority to take all necessary measures against those responsible, including their arrest and detention for trial and punishment.

UNOSOM II soldiers had acted in a restrained manner despite extreme provocation, and civilian casualties had been kept to a minimum, the spokesman said. Once the situation had been brought under control, UNOSOM II would continue to ensure that humanitarian work was not hindered.

In an interim report to the Security Council today, the Secretary-General said preliminary reports indicated that civilian crowds, including women and children, had been used by General Aidid and his supporters as "human shields" to screen attacks on fixed guard posts or strong points. Recommending that the Council condemn and take action against those responsible, the Secretary-General said it was apparent that there was a conspiracy to commit premeditated violence and that agitation was used in an attempt to stir public anger. Those responsible had not yet been identified but it was apparent that elements of the United Somali Congress/Somali National Alliance (USC/SNA) conducted the attacks, the report said.

Meanwhile, the spokesman gave details regarding an incident in Mogadishu yesterday in which some civilians had been killed. According to initial reports, the incident had occurred after an organized crowd -- with women and children in front and agitators behind -- had moved towards and threatened a Pakistani strongpoint. While the demonstrators were throwing stones and pulling down a fence in front of the strongpoint, shots were fired at the United Nations soldiers from near or within the crowd, and automatic fire was received from an adjacent building. United Nations soldiers on a rooftop covering the threatened position returned fire, defending their fellow soldiers on the ground. Witnesses had reported that other Somalis accross the street had fired on the crowd, suggesting that the incident had been staged, the spokesman went on to say.

On Saturday, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said the measures taken by UNOSOM II should be seen in the context of the international community's commitment to the national disarmament programme endorsed by all Somali parties. The United Nations would continue working with responsible Somali leaders and factions to eliminate the heavy weapons which had been used to terrorize the Somali people for so long.

* * *

The World Conference on Human Rights, which began in Vienna today, was important to show that the United Nations dealt not only with peace-keeping, but with a variety of activities such as economic development, democratization, social problems and human rights, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali told a press conference in Vienna over the weekend. It was important to show that democracy was "linked with human rights" and that

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democratic institutions protected human rights in different countries all over the world, he said.

The United Nations had received more than 30 demands for assistance from Member States to participate in monitoring elections, he pointed out. Peace-keeping was no more limited to interposing between two conflicting parties but dealt with reconstruction, return of refugees and democratization of the countries.

In reply to a question whether specific cases would be brought up at the Conference, Mr. Boutros-Ghali said such discussions must be avoided because that would transform the Conference into a political debate. He hoped it would be a "technical conference" with emphasis on the search for a "common denominator among different positions" in order to reinforce the connection between human rights, freedoms, basic freedoms and democracy.

The two-week Conference in Vienna, which will bring together high-level representatives from 183 countries, is expected to adopt an agenda for action which could dramatically increase the effectiveness of human rights work in the coming years and into the next century. The Conference follows three days of informal consultations at which senior government officials have attempted to iron out disagreements remaining from the final preparatory meeting in Geneva.

* * *

Economic development is no excuse for environmental vandalism, and economic progress without environmental destruction is what sustainable development is all about, Al Gore, Vice-President of the United States, told the Commission on Sustainable Development this morning, as it opened its first substantive session.

The Clinton Administration not only supported the commitment to change made at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), but was determined to demonstrate real leadership. To that end, President Bill Clinton would today formally establish a 25-member Council on Sustainable Development, he said.

One of the major problems facing the world was population growth, the Vice-President went on to say. Slowing population growth was in the deepest interest of all governments, and was the responsibility of rich and poor countries alike. He noted that technological development increased the impact each person had on the environment.

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, in a message to the opening meeting, said the challenges facing the Commission on Sustainable Development was to give practical expression to the pledges made at the Rio Summit.

The work of the Commission that began in Rio with agreements reached in Agenda 21, the Rio Declaration, the Forest Principles and the Conventions that were open for signature -- on Climate Change and Biodiversity -- must now be

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marked by performance, he said. The Secretary-General's message was read out by Nitin Desai, Under-Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development.

Razali Ismail (Malaysia), Chairman of the Commission, said progress by the Commission could make real the understanding that environment and development were interrelated and mutually reinforcing. Past global enterprises had generally "run out of steam", he said, but given the current realization that the planet was seriously in danger, it was now possible to do better and live up to commitments.

During its two-week session, the Commission will consider how the international community can implement "Agenda 21", the programme of action adopted by UNCED. It will also review a draft multi-year programme of work addressing the issues of technology transfers, human settlements and health, desertification, forests and biodiversity, and toxic chemicals and hazardous wastes. All those issues will have been considered by 1997, when the General Assembly has called for a major review of Agenda 21.

* * *

In Cambodia, the 120-member Constituent Assembly was sworn in this morning, two weeks after the United Nations-supervised elections ended on 28 May. The mandate of the Assembly is to create and adopt a Constitution based on democratic principles clearly laid out in the 1991 Paris Agreements. The elected officials have three months to carry out this task.

At this morning's inaugural session, the President of the Supreme National Council, Prince Norodom Sihanouk expressed the hope that the Constituent Assembly would inaugurate a new era in Cambodia of liberal democracy, political pluralism, a market economy, and respect for all human rights guaranteed by the Charter of the United Nations.

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Yasushi Akashi, appealed to all to "bury the hatchet of yesterday, to cease mutual recriminations and to concentrate from now on upon the future". The willingness of governments and private investors to commit funds to Cambodia would largely depend on the degree of political stability in the country, Mr. Akashi cautioned.

In a related development, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has declared the recent elections in Cambodia free and fair and has urged all parties to respect the results.

In his report to the Security Council on the elections, he said the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) would fully support the Constituent Assembly in drawing up a constitution and establishing a new Government. He expressed confidence that the international community would continue to support national reconciliation and peace-building in the country.

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The Leader of the Turkish Cypriot community in Cyprus, Rauf Denktash, has informed Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali that he will not be able to attend the joint meeting with the Greek Cypriots which was scheduled for today, 14 June, a United Nations spokesman said today.

An envoy of Mr. Denktash would be at United Nations today to explain that he had been delayed. As a consequence the joint meetings would not resume at Headquarters as planned, the statement said.

On 1 June, the leaders of the two communities in Cyprus, in the presence of the President of the Security Council and of the representatives of the permanent members of the Security Council, agreed that the joint meetings which had convened at United Nations Headquarters on 24 May would resume no later than 14 June, in order to reach a rapid and clear decision on Varosha and Nicosia International Airport. The resumption was agreed on the basis of an explicit undertaking by Rauf Denktash that the purpose of his consultations in Nicosia and Ankara would be to promote acceptance of these two confidence-building proposals.

* * *

The link between health problems and environmental conditions in Africa will be examined at the Intercountry Meeting on Supportive Environments for Health, begining today at the headquarters of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Nairobi. The five-day meeting is being jointly organized by UNEP and the World Health Organization (WHO).

Some forty participants from English-speaking African countries will discuss issues of water and sanitation, health hazards from pollution, conservation, capacity-building, education, social support and advocacy. A collection of case studies on health and the environment and a plan for follow-up activities are expected to be drawn up.

The meeting is a continuation of an international process linking the issues of environment and health. The WHO, through its Commission on Health and Environment, and three world conferences on health promotion have focused on the prevention of environmental degradation and the promotion of health.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1414
15 June 1993

TUESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council, endorsing results of Cambodian election, supports newly elected constituent assembly; asks Secretary-General to report back by mid-July on possible United Nations role after end of UNTAC mandate.

+ Military leaders of three parties in Bosnia and Herzegovina sign cease-fire agreement in Sarajevo; will cooperate with UNPROFOR and permit delivery of humanitarian relief.

+ Human rights are "irreducible human element" -- quintessential values affirming that "we are a single human community", Secretary-General tells World Conference in Vienna.

+ James Speth confirmed by General Assembly as new UNDP Administrator, effective 15 July; says he will support "sustainable human development"; hopes to invigorate commitments made at UNCED.

+ Actions by UNOSOM II in Mogadishu strongly supported by Security Council in Presidential statement last night; Ambassador of Pakistan says world community should not flinch from challenge posed by General Aidid.

+ Secretary-General and Russian Foreign Minister sign agreement establishing new United Naitons integrated office in Russian Federation.

* * *

The Security Council today endorsed the results of last month's Cambodian election, which had been certified free and fair by the United Nations, and called on all parties to stand by their obligation to respect them and to cooperate in a peaceful transition of power. The Council took that action by adopting unanimously resolution 840 (1993).

The Council welcomed Prince Norodom Sihanouk's efforts towards national reconciliation and his leadership and continuing role in maintaining stability

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and in promoting cooperation among Cambodians. It said it fully supported the newly elected constituent assembly, which had begun to draw up a constitution according to the Paris Agreements and would transform itself into a legislative assembly and establish a new government. The resolution emphasized that that work should be completed as soon as possible.

The Council asked the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) to continue to play its role during the transitional period. The Council also asked the Secretary-General to report to it by mid-July, including recommendations on the possible role for the United Nations in Cambodia after UNTAC's mandate ends.

* * *

The military leaders of the three parties in Bosnia and Herzegovina today signed a general agreement to halt the conflict in the Republic as of noon on 18 June. The agreement was reached at a meeting in Sarajevo chaired by Lieutenant-General Lars-Eric Wahlgren, Commander of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR).

The agreement referred in particular to Security Council resolution 824 (1993), which established safe areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and resolution 836 (1993), which authorized UNPROFOR to use force if those areas or humanitarian convoys were attacked. The three parties agreed to cooperate with UNPROFOR, which would monitor the cease-fire, and to permit the delivery of humanitarian relief and freedom of movement for agents of international humanitarian organizations.

The parties also agreed to continue negotiations, under the auspices of UNPROFOR, in order to resolve the crisis in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

* * *

Human rights are not the lowest common denominator among all nations, but "irriducible human elements" -- the quintessential values through which we affirm together that "we are a single human community", Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali told the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna yesterday.

With the development of communications, he went on, the whole world was called to witness the free enjoyment, or the violation, of human rights. Because judgements were based on that scale of norms and values, it was also part of power stakes, the Secretary-General said. That was probably why some States sought to appropriate human rights for their own benefit, even turning them into an instrument of national policy. There was no denying that "some States constantly try to hijack or confiscate human rights", he said.

The Secretary-General called on the Conference to be guided by the "three imperatives of Vienna" -- universality, guarantees and democratization. It was now "less urgent to define new rights than to persuade States to adopt existing instruments and apply them effectively". The United Nations was

obligated to help States along the road to democratization and to set up a "civics workshop on a global scale".

The universal character of human rights, transcending national borders and common to all mankind, had brought the representatives of the world community together at the World Conference on Human Rights, Alois Mock, Foreign Minister of Austria, told the Conference yesterday.

The newly elected Conference President went on to say that the universality of human rights, as well as the rejection of dual standards, must form the basis of the work of the Conference. In the next two weeks, the Conference would be challenged to strengthen and further improve that system of human rights, which was part and parcel of the objectives of the United Nations as conceived by the founding fathers.

Today in Vienna, the Secretary-General continued his meetings with world leaders, including President Dawda K Jawara of Gambia.

He also met with the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Portugal, Jose Manuel Durao Barroso, with whom he discussed the situation in East Timor, Angola and Mozambique. He then met the President of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kiro Gligorov. They discussed the situation in the former Yugoslavia and the efforts in preventive diplomacy being pursued in that Republic.

The Secretary-General was also expected to meet separately with President Sali Berisha of Albania; President Ion Iliescu of Romania; Foreign Minister Redha Malek of Algeria; Vice-Foreign Minister Liu Hua Qui of China; Foreign Minister Rashid Alimov of Tajikistan; Foreign Minister Amre Moussa of Egypt; and Foreign Minister Javier Solana Madariaga of Spain.

* * *

James Gustave Speth was today confirmed by the General Assembly as the new Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), following his nomination by Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali. He will replace William Draper, who had announced his resignation effective 15 July.

Mr. Speth told correspondents at Headquarters that he would support a new model of development called "sustainable human development", whereby the benefits of economic growth would be distributed equitably, resources would be sustained for future production, and people would be empowered to participate in decisions affecting their lives. The United Nations had a key role to play in that model, as the goals of peace, human rights and environmental quality would not be realized without sustainable human development.

A United Nations agenda for development would be an essential complement to the Secretary-General's "An Agenda for Peace", Mr. Speth said. He hoped the UNDP could invigorate the commitments made by Governments at last year's United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). More resources were needed for humanitarian relief, peace-keeping and helping

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economies in transition, but not at the expense of funds needed to tackle the underlying causes of those problems. "It's pay now or pay later on promoting sustainable human development, and to pay later will be far more expensive", he added.

Mr. Speth was a senior advisor to President Clinton's transition team and headed a group examining the United States' role regarding natural resources, energy and the environment. In 1982, he founded the World Resources Institute, a centre for policy research on environmental and development issues.

* * *

The actions carried out recently by the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II) were strongly supported by the Security Council in a Presidential statement issued last night. The actions followed unprovoked attacks on UNOSOM II by Somali gunmen on 5 June, which caused the deaths of 23 Pakistani peace-keepers.

Responding to the Secretary-General's interim report on the situation in Somalia, the Council said UNOSOM II's actions were part of a continuing programme to disarm the country and neutralize all heavy weapons. The main objective of UNOSOM II was to end the plight of the Somali people. Law and order had to be restored to enable it to deliver humanitarian assistance and promote national reconciliation and reconstruction in Somalia.

The Council expressed deep regret at any civilian casualties caused, and said that an investigation was underway into the incident on 13 June, in which United Nations peace-keepers had fired on demonstrators. Preliminary reports indicated that General Aidid and his supporters had used civilians, including women and children, as human shields for attacks on UNOSOM II, it noted.

Meanwhile, the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations, Jamsheed Marker, today told a press conference that the events of the past ten days in Somalia had raised the question whether Member States had the political will to utilise the Organization for the active preservation and promotion of peace and security. Somalia's General Aidid had challenged the very concepts of United Nations peace-keeping and peace enforcement, he said.

The world community should not flinch from this challenge; if it did, the hope of United Nations enforcement in other situations such as Bosnia and Herzegovina would have to be relinquished, Mr. Marker said.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali and Andrei Kyzyrev, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, today signed an agreement regarding the establishment of a United Nations integrated office in the Russian Federation. The signing ceremony took place in the Secretary-General's conference room at the Austria Center Vienna.

The new office, to be located in Moscow, will incorporate units of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other agencies.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1415
16 June 1993

WEDNESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council considers ways of reinforcing UNPROFOR to enable it to deter attacks on six Bosnian towns designated as safe areas; Secretary-General, in report to Council, proposes additional deployment of 7,600 troops as "light option".

+ World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna hears appeal from President of Albania for help in preventing spread of Bosnian war; Conference asks Security Council to take all necessary measures to put end to genocide in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

+ Special Committee against Apartheid observes International Day of Solidarity with Struggling People of South Africa; Secretary-General says prospects for non-racial democracy in country are most encouraging.

+ Cuba says sanctions against Haiti would be illegal under United Nations Charter and would set dangerous precedent.

* * *

The Council held consultations today on ways to reinforce the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in Bosnia and Herzegovina in order to enable it to deter attacks on six Bosnian towns designated as safe areas, and to protect humanitarian deliveries.

In his report to the Council, dated 14 June, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, proposed, as a "light option", an initial deployment of 7,600 troops to reinforce UNPROFOR. That would start up the implementation of resolution 836 (1993), which authorized UNPROFOR to use force in self-defence in reply to bombardements of the safe areas, and could form the core if further troops reinforcements became necessary. The Force Commander of UNRPOFOR had estimated additional troop requirements of approximately 34,000 to obtain deterrence through strength, the report said.

Several potential troop-contributing countries, however, had indicated difficulties in providing equipment to the reinforced UNPROFOR. Without all

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the logistical support necessary for an efficient mechanized and armoured battalion, the tasks "simply cannot be performed", the report said. The Secretary-General had therefore appealed to Member States to make available as soon as possible air transportation for deployment of troops and equipment free of cost. Any forces deployed to enforce the safe areas must possess appropriate levels of protection, mobility and fire-power, and credible air-strike capability must be provided by Member States, he pointed out. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) had already been contacted to prepare a plan for necessary air support.

Bosnia and Herzegovina, demanding an urgent meeting of the Council, said in a letter to the Council that it had not "witnessed any actions that would justify the designation of Goradze as a safe area". Despite two resolutions by the Council, declaring that city safe and allowing UNPROFOR to use force to deter attacks against it, the Serbian aggression was continuing "with unabated intensity".

The letter was transmitted to the Council by the Bosnian Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Muhamed Sacirbey.

* * *

The President of Albania appealed this morning to the United Nations, the European Community, the United States and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) to take measures to prevent the spillover of the conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina into Kosovo and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Addressimg the World Conference on Human Rights, President Sali Berisha stressed that unless preventive measures were taken by the interational community, the Albanian nation was resolved to resist any such spillover, which would entail a Balkan war.

Yesterday, the Conference asked the Security Council to take all necessary measures to put an end to genocide in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The decision was adopted by acclamation after an appeal by Bosnian Foreign Minister Haris Siladjic, who said the Conference would have no credibility if it did not respond to the Republic's suffering. For 15 months there had been almost no action on the part of the international community to protect human rights there, he said.

United States Secretary of State Warren Christopher told the Conference that cultural relativism must not become the last refuge of repression. There was no contradiction between the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the different cultures in the international community, he said. The real chasm was between the cynical excuses of oppressive regimes and the sincere aspirations of their people.

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Mr. Christopher submitted a plan of action to pursue human rights regardless of the Conference's outcome, saying the United States sought to build the United Nations capacity for preventive diplomacy, safeguarding human rights and promoting democracy.

Indonesia's Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said the approach to human rights issues should be based on the United Nations Charter, not on the preferences of any country or group. Economic and development cooperation should not be linked to human rights implementation, he stressed.

Former President of the United States, Jimmy Carter, who is a special guest of Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, pointed out that some countries felt that the Universal Declaration on Human rights did not apply to them. "The same countries that are opposing any progress on human rights, do not permit their own citizens to participate in electing and shaping their own Government, he noted.

* * *

The Special Committee against Apartheid today observed the International Day of Solidarity with the Struggling People of South Africa, also known as Soweto Day. The observance marked the seventeenth anniversary of a student uprising in Soweto and other South African townships in 1976, when police fired on demonstrators demanding better education for black people, killing hundreds of schoolchildren.

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, in a message to the Special Committee, said that the Day of Solidarity was being observed at a time when the prospects for the establishment of a non-racial democracy in South Africa were most encouraging. He said a multiracial transitional executive council was expected to be set up within weeks, and urged all parties to make every effort to reach agreement on outstanding issues.

A democratic, non-racial and united South Africa was one of the international community's highest priorities, and the United Nations would continue to work towards that goal, according to the Secretary-General. He stressed that a peaceful political climate was essential for democracy, and for progress in tackling the country's socio-economic problems.

General Assembly President Stoyan Ganev (Bulgaria) said next year's elections would mark South Africa's "clean break" with apartheid. The international community must support the ongoing process, in line with the 1989 Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa.

* * *

Cuba has said that the Security Council should not impose sanctions against Haiti as the situation there is an internal matter and does not relate to international peace and security. Such sanctions would be illegal under the United Nations Charter and would set a dangerous precedent by attempting

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to extend the Council's mandate, Cuba's Permanent Representative to the United Nations said in a letter to the Council. The letter referred to a proposal before the Council to impose an oil and arms embargo against the de facto government in Haiti.

Cuba stressed that it wanted constitutional order restored in Haiti and President Jean-Bertrand Aristide returned to power. It said, however, that a constant foreign presence in the country had led to the establishment of military governments which had destroyed the aspirations of the Haitian people.

Cuba asked why sanctions imposed by regional organizations had not been effective, yet some countries had been able to prevent many Haitians from escaping from the military regime. Various texts circulating unofficially in the Council referred to the impact of Haitian refugees on international peace and security in the region, the letter said. However, Cuba had received thousands of Haitian refugees and did not consider them a threat to peace and security. The issue was purely humanitarian and should be resolved through international organizations dealing with refugees, it said.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1416
17 June 1993

THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Secretary-General's Special Representative for Somalia calls on General Mohamed Farah Aidid to give himself up peacefully and urge his followers to surrender their arms; UNOSOM II begins raid against weapons stores of SNA/USC faction in Mogadishu.

+ Security Council imposes oil and arms embargo against Haiti as part of efforts to restore constitutional rule there; sanctions to take effect from 23 June unless results ensue from current negotiations.

+ Presidents of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Federal Republic of Yugoslavia discuss proposal to divide Bosnia and Herzegovina into three areas; Fred Eckhard to be replaced by John Mills of Australia as spokesman for Co-Chairmen of Yugoslav Conference.

+ PLO Chairman tells Human Rights Conference that international community must end what is "tantamount to genocide" in occupied Palestinian territories; UNHCR warns that attacks on refugees threaten democratic societies.

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The Secretary-General's Special Representative for Somalia, Admiral Jonathan Howe, has called on General Mohamed Farah Aidid to give himself up peacefully to the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II) and to urge his followers to surrender their arms without further delay, according to a press release issued by UNOSOM II today. Admiral Howe had directed the UNOSOM II Commander to detain him as soon as possible for the investigation of the 5 June armed attack against UNOSOM II, and of the public inciting of such attacks. General Aidid would be treated "decently, fairly and with justice", General Howe said.

The ONUSOM II had begun coordinated ground and air operation to search, clear and disarm the United Somali Congress/Somali National Alliance (USC/SNA) enclave in south Mogadishu. A separate operation had also been directed to arrest General Aidid as soon as possible as requested under resolution 837 (1993).

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A United Nations spokesman said yesterday that the action had been directed with the authority of the Secretary-General, and in accordance with the Security Council mandate. It was "vitally necessary" as part of the general programme of disarmament in Somalia, which had been agreed to by all parties to the Addis Ababa conference, and because of flagrant violations of the cease-fire, he said.

* * *

The Security Council, acting under the enforcement provisions of the United Nations Charter, last night decided to impose an oil and arms embargo against Haiti in an effort to restore constitutional rule there. Under resolution 841 (1993) adopted unanimously, the Council decided that the sanctions would be applied on 23 June unless the Secretary-General reported that they were no longer needed in the light of negotiations currently underway. However, if the de facto authorities in Haiti failed afterwards to comply with their undertakings in those negotiations, the sanctions would be applied immediately.

Under the resolution, States would be obliged to prevent the sale or supply, by their nationals or from their territories, of oil or arms to Haiti. A committee would be established to monitor compliance with the resolution and to provide guidelines for its implementation. States were urged to cooperate with the Committee and to bring proceedings against anyone violating the sanctions.

Council President Juan Antonio Yañez-Barnuevo (Spain) said in a statement on behalf of Council members that the resolution was warranted by the unique and exceptional situation in Haiti and should not be regarded as a precedent.

* * *

At a meeting in Geneve yesterday, the Presidents of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) discussed a proposal to divide Bosnia and Herzegovina into three areas. The proposal was neither the Vance-Owen peace plan nor a variation of it, a United Nations spokesman said today.

The Presidents of Croatia and the Federal Republic had left Geneva saying that they would develop the proposal in the coming week, while the Bosnian President said he would discuss it with his people over the weekend, according to the spokesman. The three Presidents were expected to return to Geneva next Wednesday to continue the talks, along with the leaders of the Bosnian Croats and the Bosnian Serbs.

In a related development, the Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia met briefly today with a representative of the Krajina Serbs. It was agreed that a delegation of Krajina Serbs would meet face-to-face with a senior delegation from the Croatian Government, probably

(more)

next Tuesday, to discuss implementation of Security Council resolution 802 (1993), which called for an end to military action in the area. The two parties have not previously met face-to-face.

Meanwhile, a team of United Nations observers in Gorazde reported today that there was no shelling in the enclave for the first time in three weeks. It found that some 40 per cent of the houses in the eastern part of the town had been totally destroyed, while all others had been damaged.

The spokesman said Fred Eckhard, spokesman for the Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on Former Yugoslavia, would be replaced by John Mills of Australia.

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The international community must act to end what is "tantamount to genocide" in the occupied Palestinian territories, Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), told the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna yesterday. Despite global condemnation, the Israeli authorities continued to abrogate human rights in the territories and to flouting international covenants and treaties, he said.

Mr. Arafat appealed to the Conference to consider the suffering of the Palestinians, and the increasing confiscation of land and the establishment of settlements to impose demographic changes. The support given to Israel by the United States and other States encouraged it to violate human rights, he alleged.

In a statement to the Conference, Sadako Ogata, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), said respect for human rights was crucial for the protection of refugees in countries of asylum. She warned that attacks on refugees and asylum seekers and incidents of xenophobia and racism threatened not just refugees but also the foundations of democratic societies.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1417
18 June 1993

FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ In first of five formal meetings this afternoon, the Security Council authorizes deployment of additional UNPROFOR personnel in former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; welcomes Member State's offer to contribute personnel.

+ Security Council welcomes working group on assistance to third countries affected by sanctions against Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro).

+ Security Council, acting under Chapter VII of Charter, authorizes reinforcement of UNPROFOR with respect to safe areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina; calls on Member States to contribute forces and logistic support.

+ Security Council, warning of serious consequences, says Iraq must accept UNSCOM installation of monitoring devices at rocket sites and transport chemical weapons-related equipment to a designated site for destruction.

+ At final meeting today, Council urges Greece and former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to arrive at a speedy settlement of remaining issues before beginning of forty-eight session of General Assembly.

+ UNOSOM II operation to disarm and control United Somali Congress/Somali National Alliance complex described as successful; five UNOSOM peace-keepers killed and 46 wounded, according to spokesman.

+ Secretary-General, on second day of visit to Ukraine, to meet with country's President and Vice-Prime Minister for Humanitarian Affairs; discusses Chernobyl and economic effects of Yugoslavia sanctions with Ukranian Parliamentarians.

+ UNHCR warns of massive disaster in former Yugoslavia because of dwindling international support for humanitarian programme; cites increased fighting, lack of political breakthrough and tightened asylum policies in Europe.

(more)

For information media--not an official record

+ Speakers at World Conference on Human Rights say democracy is best guarantor of citizens' human rights; call for appointment of special rapporteur to investigate women's human rights violations.

* * *

In the first of five consecutive meetings this afternoon, the Security Council welcomed the offer made by a Member State to contribute additional personnel to the United Nations Protection Force (UNPRPFOR) presence in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and decided to expand the size of UNPROFOR accordingly and to authorize the deployment of the additional personnel. It took that action by adopting unanimously resolution 842 (1993).

The Council recalled resolution 795 (1992), which authorized the UNPROFOR presence in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and welcomed the important contribution of the existing UNPROFOR presence there to stability in the region.

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At a second meeting this afternoon, the Council welcomed the establishment of a working group by the Committee created under resolution 724 (1993) to consider requests by States for assistance to alleviate the effects of the sanctions imposed against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro). It took that action by adopting unanimously resolution 843 (1993).

The Council invited the Committee to make recommendations to the President of the Security Council for appropriate action when it has completed the examination of each request.

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The Security Council, acting under the enforcement provisions of the United Nations Charter, today authorized the reinforcement of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) to meet requirements mentioned in the Secretary-General's report concerning safe areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Council said it was determined to fully implement resolution 836 (1993), which authorized UNPROFOR to use force if those areas were attacked. It took that action by adopting unanimously resolution 844 (1993).

The Council reaffirmed its decision in resolution 836 (1993) on the use of air power in and around the safe areas to support UNPROFOR, and encouraged Member States to coordinate closely with the Secretary-General in that regard. The Council called on Member States to contribute forces, including logistic support, to facilitate implementation of provisions regarding the safe areas, and asked the Secretary-General to continue consultations with Member States already contributing forces to UNPROFOR.

The Council reiterated its alarm at the grave and intolerable situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina arising from serious violations of international

(more)

humanitarian law, and recalled the overwhelming importance of seeking a comprehensive political solution to the conflict in the Republic. The Council asked the Secretary-General to report regularly to it on the implementation of resolutions 836 and 844 (1993).

* * *

At its fourth meeting today, the Security Council expressed concern at the refusal of Iraq to accept the United Nations Special Commissions (UNSCOM) installation of monitoring devices at rocket sites and to transport chemical weapons-related equipment to a designated site for destruction. The Council demanded that Iraq accept the installation of those devices and transport the equipment to be destroyed.

In a statement read by its President, Juan Antonio Yañez-Barnuevo (Spain), the Council said Iraq's refusal clearly constituted a material and unacceptable breach of the relevant provisions of resolution 687 (1991) which established the cease-fire and provided conditions essential to the restoration of peace and security in the region, as well as violations of resolution 707 (1991) and 715 (1991), and the plans for future ongoing monitoring and verification.

The Council, warning Iraq of serious consequences, demanded that the country immediately comply with its obligations and cease its attempts to restrict the Commission's inspection rights and operational capabilities.

* * *

At its final meeting this afternoon, the Security Council expressed its appreciation to the Co-Chairmen of the Steering Committee of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia for their efforts to solve the problem between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Under resolution 845 (1993) adopted unanimously, the Council commended to the parties as a sound basis for the settlement of their differences the proposal set forth in the Secretary-General's report.

The Council urged the two parties to continue their efforts under the auspices of the Secretary-General to arrive at a speedy settlement of remaining issues between them before the commencement of the forty-eighth session.

* * *

The actions of the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II) to disarm and control the United Somali Congress/Somali National Alliance (USC/SNA) complex had been a success, according to a United Nations spokesman. UNOSOM II announced that all the planned targets seemed to have been hit and the Somali militia's command and control capability had been disrupted and driven from its base.

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In the actions undertaken in the past week, 46 UNOSOM II peace-keepers had been wounded and one Pakistani and four Moroccan soldiers were killed. Most of the wounded were Moroccans. Although the circumstances behind the casualties were still far from certain, it was known that the Moroccan forces came under fire when confronted by a large crowd of demonstrators.

The spokesman said the militia led by General Mohamed Aidid had continued its deplorable tactics of using innocent civilians as human shields. Somali men armed with hand grenades hid behind women and children until they were within throwing distance of UNOSOM troops, and then threw the grenades at the troops.

The UNOSOM II had detained 137 Somalis during yesterday's operation. The spokesman emphasized that no UNOSOM troops were taken prisoner.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, on the second day of his visit to Ukraine, was due to hold meetings with the Ukranian President and Vice-Prime Minister for Humanitarian Affairs. Yesterday, he met with Ukranian Parliamentarians to discuss Chernobyl, the economic effects on Ukraine of sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), and Ukraine's outstanding contributions to the United Nations.

The Secretary-General also met with the Ukranian Foreign Minister for a lengthy discussion of several issues, including Ukraine's participation in the United Nations and its peace-keepers in Bosnia and Herzegovina; the Organization's role as guarantor of Ukrainian independence and security; the Ukrainian President's suggestion of a zone of peace in central and eastern Europe; and the President's proposal for an international nuclear disarmament fund.

* * *

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Sadako Ogata, has warned of a "massive humanitarian disaster" in the former Yugoslavia because of dwindling international support for the UNHCR-led humanitarian programme there. The situation was worsening because of increased fighting, the lack of a political breakthrough and tightened asylum policies throughout Europe, she said in a letter to the Chairman of the European Council.

UNHCR's 1993 programme to aid more than 3.8 million victims of the war throughout the former Yugoslavia would cost an estimated $420 million, the letter pointed out. However, only $134 million had so far been received. In addition, the World Food Programme had collected only a small portion of the 770,000 metric tonnes of food aid needed to provide minimum nourishment for those victims.

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The decline in financial and material resources had already caused shortages and cutbacks in essential services, according to Mrs. Ogata. She said a "gigantic, sustained international effort" was now required to keep the humanitarian programme alive.

* * *

Democracy was the best guarantor of citizens' human rights and a special rapporteur should be appointed in the United Nations to investigate violations of women's human rights, according to speakers addressing the continuing World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna.

On Wednesday, 16 June, Corazon Aquino, former President of the Philippines and special guest of the Secretary-General, told the Conference that she spoke both as a victim of human rights violations and as someone who had helped liberate her country from dictatorship. To those who equated democracy in the third world with chaos, she said: "there is no greater chaos than order when used as a rationale for depriving people of their freedom".

Gertrude Mongella of Tanzania, the Secretary-General of the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women to be held in Beijing, called on the Conference to include rape, genital mutilation and female infanticide in its deliberations on human rights abuses. She also called for concrete international action to condemn, redress and stop violations of women's human rights.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1418
21 June 1993

MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council reiterates support for UNOSOM II's efforts to restore law and order in Somalia; United Nations spokesman says operations in Mogadishu successfully completed; eleven Somali political organizations urge deployment of UNOSOM II forces throughout country to continue disarmament.

+ Secretary-General, in Geneva after visit to Ukraine, meets with Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq; will make one-day working visit to Bonn on Wednesday.

+ Secretary-General congratulates Malawi on 14 June referendum; welcomes vote for multi-party system; says United Nations will continue to support democratization process.

+ UNICEF representative tells World Conference on Human Rights that universality of children's rights is not debatable; FAO Director-General says right to food should be most fundamental of all rights.

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The Security Council, in a statement issued on Friday by its President, Juan Antonio Yañez-Barnuevo (Spain), reiterated its support for the efforts of the Secretary-General, his Special Representative and the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II) to restore law and order in Somalia. UNOSOM II has undertaken several actions in Mogadishu since unprovoked attacks by Somali gunmen killed 23 Pakistani peace-keepers on 5 June.

The Council stressed the international community's resolve to establish a safe environment in Somalia allowing the delivery of humanitarian aid, and to promote national reconciliation and reconstruction in the country.

In a related development, eleven Somali political organizations today issued a statement urging UNOSOM II to deploy forces throughout the country to disarm "all the people". The organizations said law and order would easily be

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For information media--not an official record

restored after disarmament, and assured UNOSOM II of their full support. They also said they were extremely sorry for the meaningless assault launched by some Somalis against UNOSOM II forces.

A United Nations spokesman said that assertive disarmament operations in southern Mogadishu had been successfully completed, and attention had now turned towards peacefully disarming factions throughout the country. He underlined that the conflict in south Mogadishu had been isolated and that the rest of the country had continued to cooperate with the Organization.

In Nairobi tomorrow, donor countries, non-governmental organizations and United Nations agencies will consult to identify the most urgent humanitarian aims to be pursued in the wake of the crisis, the spokesman said. Meanwhile in New York, Under-Secretaries-General Jan Eliasson and Kofi Annan will meet with leaders of non-governmental organizations to discuss humanitarian assistance and economic reconstruction in Somalia.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, back in Geneva after a visit to Ukraine, met today with Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq, according to a United Nations spokesman. On Wednesday, the Secretary-General would travel to Bonn, Germany, for a one-day working visit.

In advance of the Secretary-General's visit to Bonn, Under-Secretary-General Vladimir Petrovsky, Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva, would participate in hearings of the German Federal Constitutional Court on Germany's contributions to peace-keeping operations. Mr. Petrovsky was expected to make a statement to those hearings, the spokesman said.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, in a statement issued today, has congratulated the people of Malawi for the exemplary manner in which they participated in the country's referendum on 14 June. He welcomed their vote for the multi-party system in a free and fair referendum, which had been monitored by the Joint International Observer Group.

The Secretary-General was particularly pleased that the Government had decided to set up a machinery to implement the referendum results, with measures to legalize parties, reform the constitution and establish a time-table for a general election, the statement said. He urged all parties to cooperate in working out the details of those transitional arrangements and to resolve their differences peacefully, saying that the United Nations would continue to support the democratization process.

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There can be no debate on the universality of human rights when it comes to children, Steven Lewis, special representative of the Executive Director of

(more)

the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), told the World Conference on Human Rights today. "Where the rights and needs of children are concerned, universality is not negotiable and conditionality is unacceptable," he said.

On Friday, Edouard Saouma, Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), told the Conference that the right to food should be recognized as the most fundamental of all human rights. He said the malnutrition afflicting hundreds of millions of people was scandalous, considering that the world had enough resources to feed everyone adequately.

Rigoberta Menchu, Goodwill Ambassador for the International Year of the World's Indigenous People and Nobel Peace Prize winner in 1992, said the world's problems could not be solved without the full participation of the dispossessed elements of society. She stressed that peace could not be seen as a dream or a myth; the cruelty suffered by indigenous people showed that it must be a daily effort of humanity. Austria's Federal Minister for Women's Affairs called for the creation of an international court to protect and promote the human rights of women. She said sexual equality must become an integral component of all human rights institutions, and also called for the establishment of a special rapporteur to review specific violations of women's rights.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1419
22 June 1993

TUESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council decides to establish United Nations Observer Mission Uganda-Rwanda (UNOMUR); observers to be deployed on Ugandan side of border to verify that no military assistance reaches Rwanda.

+ General Assembly takes note of Security Council's report for period 16 June 1991 to 15 June 1992; agrees to include item on financing of peace-keeping in Cyprus on its agenda.

+ Special Envoy for Haiti receives positive reply from Commander-in-Chief of Haitian Armed Forces to invitation to open dialogue to resolve Haitian crisis; says meeting could be held before weekend.

+ Co-Chairmen of Yugoslav Conference hold positive meeting with delegations from Krajina Serbs and Croatian Government, with view to establishing mechanism for negotiations between two sides.

+ UNOSOM II says Conference of Kismayo Elders will resume on Thursday; donors and non-governmental organizations discuss Somalia's needs in Nairobi.

+ Secretary-General, in Geneva, meets with ICRC Director, WHO Director-General and Co-Chairman of Yugoslav Conference; praises German support for peace-keeping prior to visit to Bonn tomorrow.

+ Secretary-General asks international community to support peaceful political process in Afghanistan; warns that Appeal for Afghan Humanitarian Assistance is seriously underfunded.

+ General Assembly President says United Nations should expand assistance to help former communist countries develop democratic institutions.

+ Commission on Sustainable Development decides on draft guidelines for information on UNCED follow-up; Governments would provide information to Secretariat for review of implementation of "Agenda 21".

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For information media--not an official record

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The Security Council today decided to establish the United Nations Observer Mission Uganda-Rwanda (UNOMUR), to be deployed on the Ugandan side of the border for an initial period of six months, and subject to review every six months. The Mission will monitor the Uganda/Rwanda border to verify that no military assistance reaches Rwanda. The Council took that action by adopting unanimously resolution 846 (1993).

The Council asked the Secretary-General to conclude a status of mission agreement with the Government of Uganda before full deployment of UNOMUR, and approved the dispatching of an advance party within fifteen days, or as soon as possible after the conclusion of the status of mission agreement. UNOMUR would be fully deployed within thirty days of the advance party's arrival.

The Council urged the Government of Rwanda and the Rwandese Patriotic Front (RPF) to respect the rules of international humanitarian law and to quickly conclude a comprehensive peace agreement. The Council asked the Secretary-General to report to it on the results of the ongoing peace talks in Arusha and to report on the implementation of resolution 846 within sixty days of the deployment of UNOMUR.

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Decision-making in the Security Council should be transparent and the membership of the United Nations should be informed of the motives for its actions, several representatives told the General Assembly today before it took note of the Council's annual report for the period 16 June 1991 to 15 June 1992. Some representatives said annual reports should be analytical rather than a compendium of the Council's activities.

Also today, the Assembly agreed to the Secretary-General's request to include an additional item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Peace-Keeping Forces in Cyprus" on its agenda and referred the matter to its Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary).

The Assembly observed a moment of silence in tribute to Hamadi Khouini, Permanent Representative of Tunisia, who died last week.

* * *

The Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Haiti, Dante Caputo, today said he had received a "positive" reply from the Commander-in-Chief of the Haitian Armed Forces, General Raoul Cedras, to an invitation to initiate a dialogue with President Jean-Bertrand Aristide with a view to resolving the Haitian crisis.

The reply, in the form of a letter, opened up possibilities for fruitful negotiations, Mr. Caputo stressed. He said that he expected to hear from President Aristide by this evening, and that a meeting could take place before the weekend.

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Thorvald Stoltenberg and Lord Owen, Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia, held a "positive" meeting in a "constructive" atmosphere in Geneva today with delegations from the Krajina Serbs and the Croatian Government, a United Nations spokesman said. The Co-Chairmen met individually with both sides before the plenary meeting. The purpose of the meetings was to establish a mechanism for negotiations between the two sides.

The Co-Chairmen were scheduled to meet tomorrow with the Bosnian Presidency, with 7 of the 10 members of the collective Presidency expected to attend, according to the spokesman. Meetings were also scheduled tomorrow with the representative of the Bosnian Presidency, Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, Croatian President Franjo Tudjman, Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic and Bosnian Croat leader Mate Boban.

* * *

The Conference of Kismayo Elders will resume on Thursday in Kismayo, the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II) announced today. Organizational sessions for the Conference ended on 3 June with a Declaration of Peace and Reconciliation which included an agenda of work. That agenda will be addressed by some 120 Elders from all communities in the Kismayo area. At their request, political faction leaders will not attend the Conference.

Meanwhile, some 70 representatives from donor countries and 10 representatives from non-governmental organizations met today in Nairobi, Kenya, to discuss recent developments and humanitarian needs in Somalia. The meeting was attended by the Secretary-General's Special Representative Admiral Jonathan Howe.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, in Geneva, had meetings today with Cornelio Sommarruga, Director of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Dr. Hiroshi Nakajima, Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO), Thorvald Stoltenberg, Co-Chairman of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia, and Martti Ahtisaari, chairman of a Conference working group. The Secretary-General also met with Germany's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Office at Geneva concerning his one-day working visit to Bonn tomorrow.

In advance of that visit, the Secretary-General paid tribute to Germany for its support for United Nations peace-keeping operations. Its financial contributions had been augmented by its medical and logistical support for such vital missions as the United Nations Observer Group in Central America

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(ONUCA), the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), and the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II), he said. Such support underlined the universality of responsibility for United Nations peace-keeping. He noted that international peace and security were, according to the United Nations Charter, the responsibility of all Member States.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, after consultations with Iran, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia and the United States, today asked the international community to support the peaceful political process in Afghanistan, according to statement issued through a United Nations spokesman. He said every effort should be made to observe the cease-fire in Afghanistan to ensure the safety of civilians.

The Secretary-General reminded donor Governments that his Appeal for Afghan Humanitarian Assistance remained seriously underfunded. Without additional funding from the international community, essential United Nations programmes might be curtailed, he warned.

* * *

The United Nations should expand assistance to help former communist countries develop democratic institutions, General Assembly President Stoyan Ganev (Bulgaria) told a workshop for Foreign Ministers of newly independent States which opened yesterday in Qawra, Malta. He praised Malta's initiative and creativity in bringing the workshop -- part of a five-day seminar -- to fruition and said it was a good example of the role a small country could play in promoting international cooperation.

The workshop was organized by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Development and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in cooperation with the Maltese Foreign Ministry. It brought together high-level officials from 18 newly independent States in Central Asia, the Baltics and Central and Eastern Europe, and representatives of international financial, development and educational organizations.

* * *

The Commission on Sustainable Development yesterday took an ad referendum decision on guidelines for organizing information on the follow-up to last year's United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), and on a multi-year thematic programme. The texts will be officially adopted on Friday, as part of the report of the Commission's first session.

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Under the draft decision on the guidelines, Governments would be encouraged to provide suggested information to the Secretariat to enable the Commission to review progress in the implementation of "Agenda 21", UNCED's programme of action. The draft notes that the provision of information, including matters related to financial resources and technology transfers, would be voluntary. In order to properly analyze the information, the Commission would agree on the need for the Secretary-General to prepare reports using a standardized format that Governments might follow, taking into account the format of "Agenda 21".

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1420
23 June 1993

WEDNESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Special Envoy for Haiti says President Aristide has agreed to meet with Haitian Armed Forces to resolve Haitian crisis; says Council sanctions played very important role in bringing about meeting.

+ UNOSOM II says leaflets are being distributed to Somali people offering reward for arrest of General Aidid or information on his whereabouts.

+ Secretary-General pays one-day working visit to Bonn; meets with German Chancellor, Foreign Minister and Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development.

+ Commission on Sustainable Development begins two-day high-level meeting attended by environment and development ministers from more than 40 countries.

+ UNHCR expresses concern over United States Supreme Court decision on return of Haitian refugees; says governments are obliged not to return refugees to persecution whether inside or outside borders.

+ Economic and Social Council to discuss 1995 World Summit for Social Development at special meeting in Geneva; will consider Secretary-General's report on United Nations role in social development.

+ World Conference on Human Rights considers draft resolution urging world community to assume responsibility for peace and stability in Bosnia and Herzegovina; Iraq says blockade against it violates human rights as it has fulfilled all obligations imposed by Security Council.

+ United Nations Commissioner-General signs Participation Contract with Chairman of Taejon International Exposition Organizing Committee.

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For information media--not an official record

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The Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Haiti, Dante Caputo, today announced that President Jean-Bertrand Aristide had agreed to meet with representatives of the Haitian Armed Forces with a view to resolving the Haitian crisis. Mr. Caputo recalled that General Raoul Cedras, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, had already agreed to a meeting. Details regarding the time and place were being worked out.

Mr. Caputo described the meeting as "a very important step", adding that negotiations had been a goal of Security Council resolution 841 (1993). Under that resolution, the Council decided that oil and arms sanctions would be applied against Haiti today in an effort to restore constitutional rule there.

Mr. Caputo said the sanctions had played a very important role in bringing about the meeting. He stressed that the international community would make every effort to help the negotiations, but that success would depend on the will of the parties.

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Leaflets are being distributed to the Somali people offering a reward for the arrest of General Mohamed Farah Aidid or information on his whereabouts, a spokesman for the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II) said today. The leaflets, in the Somali language, were being distributed by hand today and would be dropped by helicopter tomorrow, weather permitting.

The University compound adjacent to UNOSOM II buildings came under sniper fire this morning, and 6 Somalis may have been killed or injured by return fire from Tunisian and United States forces, the spokesman said. No UNOSOM II casualties were reported.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today paid a one-day working visit to Bonn. He was met at the airport by Germany's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, the Acting Chief of Protocol, and the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva, who had attended German court hearings on participation by German troops in the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II).

At noon, the Secretary-General met with German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, and discussed the situations in Somalia and the former Yugoslavia, and relations between Germany and the United Nations. He had a working lunch with the German Foreign Minister, and discussed the court hearings relating to Somalia and Germany's interests in the United Nations, including its aspiration for a permanent Security Council seat. They also discussed the situations in Somalia, the former Yugoslavia, Africa and Cambodia. Before returning to Geneva, he met with Germany's Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development.

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The Commission on Sustainable Development today began a two-day high-level meeting to consider the outcome of discussion on the issues before its first session. Environment and development ministers from more than 40 countries are participating in the meeting.

Denmark's Environment Minister said the Commission should become a "Security Council for the environment", serving as a political forum for the implementation of "Agenda 21", the plan of action adopted by last year's United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). Australia's Environment Minister said the environment issue was as important as international peace and security and the global economy. The high-level meeting must ensure the success of the UNCED process and counter the sense that political imperatives had been submerged in dialogue in the past year.

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The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has expressed serious concern over the United States Supreme Court's decision upholding the summary return of Haitian refugees. The Court's ruling that the international law prohibiting the return of refugees to persecution did not have extra-territorial effect was "a setback to modern international refugee law", and made UNHCR's work more difficult, according to a UNHCR statement.

UNHCR said that it had submitted a "friend-of-the-court" brief last December taking the position that summarily repatriating refugees to a place where their lives or freedom would be threatened was contrary to applicable international refugee treaties and to the principle of "non-return" of refugees. The obligation not to return refugees to persecution arose irrespective of whether governments acted within or outside their borders, the statement stressed.

* * *

The World Summit for Social Development and the United Nations role in promoting social development will be the main topic of discussion at a special meeting of the Economic and Social Council, to be held from 28 to 30 June in Geneva. It will be the Council's first high-level discussion of preparations for the Summit, which will be held during the Organization's fiftieth anniversary year in 1995. The Summit will be the first meeting of world Heads of State or Government to confront the issues of poverty, unemployment and social disintegration.

The Council will consider the Secretary-General's report entitled "World Summit for Social Development, including the role of the United Nations system in promoting social development". The Secretary-General recently said that peace and development were indivisible, and that conflicts were caused by disappointed economic hopes. In his 1992 report on the work of the United Nations, he said the Summit would inspire a more comprehensive approach to United Nations action in the social sphere.

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The World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna is considering a draft resolution urging the world community to assume full responsibility for restoring peace and stability in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The draft would have the Conference categorically reject the proposed partition of Bosnia and Herzegovina and call for the lifting of the arms embargo against it. The draft follows an appeal by the Bosnian Foreign Minister to the Conference to call on the Security Council to stop the "genocide" in his country.

Iraq's Justice Minister yesterday told the Conference that the "blockade" against his country was a flagrant violation of human rights, as it had fulfilled all the obligations imposed on it by the Security Council. The policy of influential Council members on the Kurdish question threatened Iraq's territorial integrity, he said, adding that the escalation of interference in the internal affairs of States threatened the foundations of modern international relations.

The Foreign Minister of Bhutan said the right to self-determination should not be used to undermine the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of States. A representative of the Interparliamentary Union said there could be no democracy if people could not meet basic food and shelter requirements. All individuals should be allowed to participate freely in the economic, social and political lives of their countries, he stressed.

* * *

A Participation Contract between the United Nations and the Taejon International Exposition Organizing Committee was signed yesterday in Taejon, Republic of Korea, by the United Nations Commissioner-General, Eugeniusz Wyzner, and the Chairman of the Organizing Committee, Myung Oh. The signing completes the legal process and establishes the framework for United Nations participation in the Exposition..

The Exposition, which will run from 7 August to 7 November, is the first of its kind to be hosted by a developing country. Some 112 countries will participate in the event which has as its central theme, "The Challenge of a New Road to Development".

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1421
24 June 1993

THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Co-Chairmen of Yugoslav Conference hold round of meetings to pursue recent Serb and Croat proposals for settlement of war in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

+ Secretary-General appoints General Jean Cot of France as UNPROFOR Force Commander from 1 July, replacing Lieutenant-General Wahlgren; Lieutenant-General Morillon to be replaced as UNPROFOR Commander in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

+ Special Envoy for Haiti says talks to resolve Haitian crisis to begin at United Nations Headquarters on Sunday; President Aristide and General Cedras have agreed on agenda.

+ Tanzania tells World Conference on Human Rights that Member States would be subject to "double standards" if proposed human rights commissioner could bring serious human rights violations before Security Council.

+ UNTAC blames National Army of Democratic Kampuchea for 7 June attack on Pakistani troops in Preah Vihear Province; says Cambodian People's Armed Forces probably responsible for attack same day on Malaysians.

+ Industrial Development Board to consider budget proposals for UNIDO at eleventh session in Vienna from 28 June to 2 July.

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The Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia, Cyrus Vance and Thorvald Stoltenberg, met today with delegations from the Croatian Government and Serb authorities from Knin to establish a negotiating mechanism, according to a United Nations spokesman. Nothing had been formally agreed except that they would meet again on 6 July.

(more)

For information media—not an official record

The Co-Chairmen also met with Bosnian Croat leader Mate Boban and Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic, following a meeting last night with seven of the ten members of the Bosnian Presidency and the Presidents of Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro. The Co-Chairmen also had a dinner meeting last night with the Bosnian Presidency.

The current round of meetings is pursuing proposals put forward last week by the Serb and Croat sides for a settlement of the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the spokesman said. The Co-Chairmen believed that the Vance-Owen plan remained highly relevant to any new settlement, and that the constitutional principles transmitted to the Bosnian Presidency this week contained many elements of the Vance-Owen plan's nine principles. However, the Co-Chairmen had taken no position on the document presented by the Serbs and Croats. The Bosnian presidency planned to return to Geneva on Monday for further meetings with the Co-Chairmen.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has decided, subject to the agreement of the Security Council, to appoint General Jean Cot of France as Force Commander of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) effective 1 July. General Cot, who holds the rank of "Général d'armée", is currently Commander-in-Chief of the First French Army and Military Governor of Strasbourg. He will replace Lieutenant-General Lars-Eric Wahlgren of Sweden, who has been Force Commander of UNPROFOR since 3 March 1993.

Related changes in the UNPROFOR chain of command will involve the replacement of the UNPROFOR Commander in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Lieutenant-General Philippe Morillon, who is completing his tour of duty and will shortly return to France. His replacement has not yet been named.

Meanwhile, France has said it is ready to provide an additional battalion for UNPROFOR in Sarajevo, one of the six "safe areas" established by the Security Council. Bangladesh, Netherlands and Pakistan have also offered troops to serve with UNPROFOR in implementing the "safe areas", while several other Member States are considering additional contributions.

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Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide and General Raoul Cedras, Commander-in-Chief of the Haitian Armed Forces, have agreed that talks to resolve the Haitian crisis will begin at United Nations Headquarters on Sunday at 9:00 a.m., Special Envoy Dante Caputo announced today. Agreement was also reached on the agenda for the talks, which will be conducted by the Special Envoy.

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Tanzania's Attorney-General Damian Lubuva told the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna yesterday that the proposal for a human rights

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commissioner would give the commissioner authority to bring serious violations of human rights before the Security Council, thus subjecting Member States to the double standards practised by those who dominated the Council.

The Director of the human rights component of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) noted that the Authority had the broadest human rights mandate ever entrusted to a United Nations peace-keeping operation. For the first time, the Organization had established its own prosecutor's office and had arrested and charged human rights violators. He said human rights were part of a rehabilitation and rebuilding process which demanded long-term investment by the international community. Tunisia's Foreign Minister said the Conference agenda proved that the international community had a firm will to protect human rights.

The Conference, which ends tomorrow, is drafting a final document that will contain such principles as the universality and indivisibility of human rights and will include the rights of children, the disabled, minorities and indigenous peoples, as well as specific measures to strengthen United Nations monitoring of human rights.

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The United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) has concluded that an attack on 7 June on Pakistani UNTAC troops in Preah Vihear Province was deliberately carried out by elements of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea (NADK). That conclusion was reached after an investigation by UNTAC Strategic Investigation Teams, according to a letter from the Secretary-General to the Security Council.

An attack on the same day on Malaysian UNTAC troops in Battambang Province was "most probably" carried out by local elements of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces, or CPAF, the letter said. Although there was no conclusive evidence as to the identity of the attackers, shell casings retrieved and the behaviour of local CPAF soldiers and villagers strongly indicated CPAF responsibility.

* * *

Programme and budget proposals for the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) will be the main focus of the 53-nation Industrial Development Board's eleventh session, to be held in Vienna from 28 June to 2 July. The Board will consider relative priorities among UNIDO's main activities in the medium-term plan for 1994-99, and its future policy framework, according to a UNIDO press release.

A focal point for discussion will be UNIDO's 1992 Annual Report, which reveals that technical cooperation delivered last year amounted to $136 million, a decrease of 8 per cent from 1991. However, UNIDO promoted 194 investment projects worth $1,473 million in 1992, compared with 166 projects worth 890 million in 1991.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1422
25 June 1993

FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

• General Assembly postpones action on draft resolution dealing with restructuring of United Nations; Colombia, on behalf of "Group of 77", says action should not yet be taken on such important issue.

• World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna considers draft document affirming universality of human rights, right to development and rights of women and minorities.

• Secretary-General arrives in Cairo for OAU Summit; underlines importance of cooperation between United Nations and regional organizations, citing Somalia, Rwanda, Mozambique and Angola.

• Secretary-General expresses concern about shelling of Georgian town of Sukhumi by Abkhaz forces; warns of wider conflagration in Caucasus region; Special Envoy working to bring about cease-fire.

• High-level meeting of Commission on Sustainable Development finds limited progress made since UNCED; United States says it is committed to sustainability; Japan to boost support for sustainable development.

• WHO says cholera pandemic shows no signs of abating; cites global recession as contributory factor.

• UNHCR receives only one quarter of $10 million needed for Togolese refugees in Benin and Ghana; says there is no food in the pipeline for refugees in Ghana, and situation is deteriorating.

* * *

The General Assembly today postponed action on a draft resolution calling for further measures on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields. By a recorded vote of 70 in favour to 37 against, with 14 abstentions, the Assembly approved a Colombian motion that no action be taken on the draft today. The reforms would have aimed at avoiding duplication of work in the Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and enhancing their complementarity.

(more)

For information media--not an official record

Colombia, on behalf of the "Group of 77" developing countries, said it was inappropriate to take action at this time on an issue of such importance to the future of the Organization in the economic and social area. In the spirit of cooperation between North and South, which had been evident in the Commission on Sustainable Development, he asked the Assembly not to take action today. However, the United States opposed the Colombian motion, saying the draft included necessary reforms. The United Nations system was in trouble, with declining resources and a loss of credibility and effectiveness in the system as a whole, the United States argued.

* * *

The World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna, which was scheduled to end today, has been considering a draft final document affirming the universality of human rights, the right to development, the rights of women and minorities and the link between democracy, development and respect for human rights. Also taken into account are indigenous peoples, children and refugees.

When the World Conference began, a consensus on the universality of human rights was in question, with some countries insisting that the human rights values of one country or group could not be imposed on other countries. The Conference has brought together high-level representatives from more than 180 countries and is the first global human rights meeting in 25 years.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali arrived today in Cairo to attend the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Summit, according to a United Nations spokesman. He was received at the airport by Egypt's Foreign Minister and by various United Nations officials.

On arrival, the Secretary-General spoke of the importance of the OAU, citing cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations in such areas as Somalia, Rwanda, Mozambique and Angola. It was anticipated that he would have many bilateral meetings with Heads of State attending the Summit, the spokesman said.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today expressed concern about daily shelling of the Georgian town of Sukhumi by Abkhaz forces, which had caused deaths and injuries among the civilian population, according to a United Nations spokesman. The Secretary-General deplored the attacks, warning that they could lead to escalation and a wider conflagration in Georgia and Caucasus region. He called on all parties to abide by the cease-fire agreed in Moscow on 14 May, and to refrain from any action which could expose the civilian population to further suffering.

The Special Envoy for Georgia is currently undertaking talks to bring about the cease-fire -- working closely with the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) -- and will soon report back to the Secretary-General.

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Participants in the two-day high-level meeting of the Commission on Sustainable Development agreed that the progress achieved since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) had been limited, Commission Chairman Razali Ismail said yesterday. Participants, including more than 40 environment and development ministers, had emphasized that much more had to be done to put UNCED's commitments into action.

The Chairman said the meeting had underscored the political importance of an effective follow-up to UNCED, and that ministers and other high-level officials had shown a commitment to sustainable development. The Commission's role as a political forum for monitoring and reviewing implementation of "Agenda 21", UNCED's plan of action, had also been highlighted.

The United States said it was committed to changing the course of world economics to fulfil its obligation towards sustainability. It would make strong efforts to "muffle the noise of confrontation" and to join in a world partnership. Japan said it would increase financial support for sustainable development by up to 40 to 50 per cent over the next five years.

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The current cholera pandemic, which has resulted in more than 3 million cases and tens of thousands of deaths around the world since 1961, shows no signs of abating, according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

The pandemic is thought to be caused by a bacterium which can survive in aquatic environments for long periods, making it unlikely that cholera will soon disappear from affected regions, WHO said. The continuing global recession, which hampers the ability of developing countries to strengthen their health infrastructures, is an important contributing factor.

"Cholera is the litmus test of a country's socioeconomic well-being," according to WHO Director-General Dr. Hiroshi Nakajima. "For as long as there is a lack of proper sanitation facilities and safe drinking-water, epidemics of cholera are bound to return, time and again".

* * *

Despite numerous appeals in the past month, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) today said that it had received only one quarter of the $10 million needed to assist 280,000 Togolese refugees in Benin and Ghana. As a result, there was no food in the pipeline for refugees in Ghana for July.

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UNHCR said that the refugee situation in Benin and Ghana was rapidly deteriorating, and warned that further refugee outflows were expected from Togo after a setback last week in peace talks between the Togolese Government and opposition representatives.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1423
28 June 1993

MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council, in Presidential statement, stresses inviolability of Iraq's boundary with Kuwait, as demarcated by Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Commission.

+ United States tells Security Council its attack on Iraqi intelligence headquarters was proportionate response to attempted assassination of former President Bush; says attempt was attack on United States, and response was act of self-defence.

+ World Conference on Human Rights adopts "Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action", reaffirming that human rights have universal character and are legitimate international concerns; recommends that General Assembly consider issue of high commissioner for human rights.

+ Secretary-General leaves Cairo, having addressed OAU Summit, for Geneva, to address Economic and Social Council; has meetings with many African Heads of State.

+ Secretary-General expresses outrage at right-wing display of force against delegates at multi-party talks in South Africa; reiterates call to all South Africans to renounce violence.

+ Secretary-General, in message on International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, says illicit drugs are major challenge to international peace and security.

+ General Assembly President, on official visit to Italy, meets with President Scalfaro; is received in audience by Pope John Paul II.

+ United Nations Seminar and Symposium discuss issues relating to settlement of Palestine question at Headquarters this week.

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For information media--not an official record

The Security Council, in a statement read out by its President, Juan Antonio Yañez-Barnuevo (Spain), today noted with particular concern the letter of 6 June from Iraq's Foreign Minister to the Secretary-General concerning resolution 833 (1993). (That letter challenged the work of the Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Commission and said the Council had no right to impose a boundary delimitation on a Member State.)

The Council recalled that the Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Commission had not reallocated territory between Kuwait and Iraq, but had simply carried out the technical tasks necessary to demarcate the precise coordinates for the first time, on the basis of the 1963 Agreed Minutes signed by both countries. The Council reminded Iraq that the Commission had acted on the basis of resolution 687 (1991) and the Secretary-General's report dealing with its implementation, both of which had been formally accepted by Iraq. In resolution 833 (1993), the Council had reaffirmed that the Commission's decisions were final, and demanded that Iraq and Kuwait respect the inviolability of the international boundary as demarcated by the Commission and the right to navigational access.

The Council also reminded Iraq of its acceptance of resolution 687 (1991), which formed the basis for the cease-fire after the Gulf War. The Council stressed to Iraq the inviolability of its boundary with Kuwait, demarcated by the Commission and guaranteed by Council resolutions 687 (1991), 773 (1992) and 833 (1993), and the serious consequences that would ensure from any breach thereof.

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The United States has said that its military attack on Iraqi intelligence service headquarters in Baghdad on Saturday was a proportionate response to the service's attempted assassination of former President George Bush in Kuwait last April. The attempted assassination was an attack on the United States, and the response was an act of self-defence under Article 51 of the United Nations Charter, the country's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Madeleine Albright, told the Security Council yesterday. The Council was meeting at the urgent request of the United States.

Ms. Albright told the Council that while President Bush was visiting Kuwait on 14 April, Kuwaiti authorities had thwarted a terrorist operation against him. After a meticulous investigation, the United States had concluded that it had been planned, equipped and launched by Iraq. She went on to say that while Saturday's incident was an issue between Iraq and the United States, it should lead all nations to redouble their resolve to ensure that Baghdad's criminal regime was never again able to disturb the peace.

Iraq said the United States had violated its position as a permanent member of the Council; the attack on Baghdad was part of the American policy of aggression to subjugate Iraq and was designed for political ends. Iraq had denied any part in the alleged assassination attempt and the United States had no right to overlook the due process of law, he said.

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A number of representatives supported the action by the United States, while China, expressing regret at the loss of civilian lives in Iraq, said disputes should be settled through dialogue.

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The World Conference on Human Rights, which was held in Vienna from 14 to 25 June, adopted by consensus the "Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action", which reaffirmed the universal character of human rights, and that human rights were a legitimate concern of the international community. It established the inter-relationship between democracy, development and human rights, and reaffirmed the obligation of States to take special measures concerning special groups, such as women and children.

In the Programme, the Conference requested that the United Nation centre for Human Rights be strengthened, its financial and staff resources increased, and the mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights made more efficient. It recommended that the General Assembly, at its forty-eighth session, consider as a matter of priority the question of the establishment of a United Nations high commissioner for human rights. It also encouraged the International Law Commission to continue its work on an international criminal court.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today left Cairo, where he had addressed the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Summit, for Geneva, where he would address a meeting of the Economic and Social Council.

In his address to the OAU Summit, the Secretary-General highlighted the importance of a sincere commitment to self-democratization. While progress could not be taken for granted, the general trend towards self-democratization in Africa had been positive and encouraging. He stressed the need for strengthening regional structures, developing human resources and diversifying economies, and noted that Africa, more than any other region, displayed the vast range of United Nations activities for peace, democracy and development.

In Cairo yesterday, the Secretary-General had meetings with many African Heads of State and other officials. He discussed the deployment of the United Nations Observer Force Uganda-Rwanda (UNOMUR) with the President of Rwanda, developments in South Africa with South African leader Nelson Mandela, and the Middle East peace talks and the economic situation in the occupied territories with Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat. On Saturday, the Secretary-General met with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, with whom he discussed numerous African issues. The Secretary-General said he had sent a letter to the Heads of State of the Group of Seven industrialized countries before their forthcoming summit seeking support for African problems.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has expressed outrage at the brazen display of force by members of the right-wing Afrikaner National Front (ANF) against delegates attending multi-party talks in South Africa aimed at facilitating the transition to a non-racial, democratic and united country.

The Secretary-General, in a statement issued by a spokesman yesterday, said that progress in the talks threatened elements that espoused racist policies. He stressed that the vast majority of South Africans were committed to peace, equality and democracy, and had the support of the international community. He reiterated his call to all South Africans to renounce violence and called on them to commit themselves to the negotiation process.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has said that one of the most insidious and far-reaching challenges to international peace and security is illicit drug production, trafficking and consumption. Hardly a country or community had been spared the effects of drugs, he said on Saturday in a message for the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

Preventive action must become a crucial element in the elimination of drug abuse, the Secretary-General said. The United Nations had laid the foundations for a more effective strategy in drug-abuse control, and its International Drug Control Programme was the focal point for the Decade against Drug Abuse (1991 to 2000). He called on all Governments, international organizations and civil society to take concerted action to tackle drug abuse.

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General Assembly President Stoyan Ganev (Bulgaria), on an official visit to Italy, met today with the country's President, Oscar Luigi Scalfaro. They discussed the evolution of United Nations peace-keeping operations, particularly regarding the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II). Mr. Ganev was received in an audience by Pope John Paul II, and was afterwards received by Cardinal Angelo Sodano, Secretary of State of the Holy See.

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Priorities for United Nations action and for the second decade of the non-governmental organizations movement are the themes of the Ninth United Nations North American Seminar and the Tenth United Nations North American NGO Symposium on the Question of Palestine, being held at Headquarters this week.

Both events have been organized by the Committee on the Exercise on the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, as part of its efforts to promote a just and lasting settlement of the question of Palestine. The Seminar is being held today and tomorrow, and will be followed by the Symposium, which will end on Friday. The topics of discussion will be the United Nations and the implementation of international human rights instruments and relevant Security Council resolutions; the United Nations and the promotion of the economic development of occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem; and the United Nations and the peace process.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1424
29 June 1993

TUESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ High-level negotiations concerning Security Council resolutions relating to oil sales by Iraq to begin in New York on 7 July.

+ General Cedras of Haitian Armed Forces says he is in New York to discuss conditions for President Aristide's return to Haiti and to ensure security of all sectors in country; spokesman says President Aristide will only meet General Cedras after agreement has been reached.

+ One Pakistani UNOSOM solider, two Somali gunmen killed in Mogadishu; Special Representative says security will improve when militias are under control; hopes "coercive disarmament" will soon lead to "cooperative disarmament".

+ Secretary-General tells European Social Ministers of need for humanistic vision of social policy.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, in Geneva, has announced that high-level negotiations concerning the application of Security Council resolutions 706 (1991) and 712 (1991) will take place in New York beginning on 7 July, according to a United Nations spokesman. Those resolutions relate to oil sales and economic sanctions against Iraq.

The Secretary-General expressed confidence that the attempted assassination of former United States President George Bush and the action taken by the United States against Iraq on Saturday, of which he had been informed beforehand by President Clinton, would not be an obstacle to the negotiations. The Secretary-General also expressed the wish that the negotiations would contribute to a peaceful solution of the problem, in conformity with the United Nations Charter.

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For information media—not an official record

The Commander-in-Chief of the Haitian Armed Forces, General Raoul Cedras, today said he was attending talks in New York to discuss conditions for President Jean-Bertrand Aristide's return to Haiti and to ensure the security of all sectors in the country. General Cedras told correspondents that he and the President had to be together to ensure Haiti's future.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for President Aristide said the President would only meet with General Cedras after an agreement had been hammered out because "we view such a meeting as a celebration and we have nothing to celebrate yet".

The Haiti talks, now in their third day, are aimed at setting a date for the return of President Aristide; the resignation of the Army High Command; the transfer of power to a democratic government; the deployment of an international police force and the appointment of a new Prime Minister. The talks are being conducted by the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Haiti, Dante Caputo.

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A Pakistani solider serving with the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II) died after being shot yesterday in Mogadishu, and two Somali gunmen were killed when UNOSOM forces responded to the incident, according to a United Nations spokesman. UNOSOM forces manned checkpoints and strong-points and conducted routine patrols in the city today.

Special Representative Admiral Jonathan Howe said that security in Somalia would improve when forces like General Mohamed Farah Aidid and his militia were under control. Admiral Howe also said that he hoped that the process of "coercive disarmament" would soon lead to one of "cooperative disarmament".

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has said that at a time of dramatic transformations in Europe and elsewhere, a humanistic and encompassing vision of social policy is needed. Peace, prosperity and freedom could only be attained if the contributions of all citizens were taken into account, he said yesterday in a message to the European Conference of Ministers Responsible for Social Affairs, in Bratislava.

The framework for a comprehensive vision was coming into focus, the Secretary-General stressed. The United Nation Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) had redefined the dimensions of environmental issues and the need for global solutions. The World Conference on Human Rights had highlighted human rights as a fundamental prerequisite for peace, development and progress. The 1994 International Year of the Family would underscore the importance of the family in integrating social, economic, environmental and human rights issues. And in 1995, the World Summit for Social Development would emphasize the importance of social concerns, and seek to integrate the social dimension into the evolving global framework, he said.

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